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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Peru/Mexico

DATE DISTR. 2 September 1943

SUBJECT Plans for Peruvian Delegation to Congress of Petroleum Workers to be Held at Tampico, Mexico

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1. Jesus Chinas Coron and Manuel Fernandez Rustrian, both officials of the Sindicato de Trabajadores Petroleros Mexicanos, visited Peru during the middle of August 1943 in connection with the Congress of Petroleum Workers to be held in Tampico, Mexico. They indicated that the Congress would now convene on 22 September.
2. The two Mexican representatives stated that, in addition to the official agenda of the Congress, two important matters would be discussed during the sessions: the nationalization of petroleum resources throughout Latin America, and the organization of petroleum workers throughout the continent to impede oil production in case of war between the United States and the Soviet Union. The official agenda will reportedly center around four general points: problems of employment, working conditions, social services, and working relations.
3. Chinas and Fernandez visited Negritos, Lobitos, Lagunitos, and El Alto, and spent a few hours in Lima, arranging for Peruvian representation at the Congress. In the north of the country, they conferred with Armando Arellano, Secretary of the Federacion de Trabajadores del Petroleo del Peru, and it was agreed that Peru should send five delegates to the Congress. Chinas and Fernandez stated that they had already visited Colombia, which will be represented by 10 delegates, Ecuador, which will send 7, and Venezuela which will have 12 delegates.
4. The Federacion de Trabajadores del Petroleo del Peru is controlled by the Socialist Party of Luciano Castillo. Armando Arellano served as Peruvian delegate to the CTAL Congress held in Mexico City in March 1943. At that time, there was reportedly a deal between Castillo and the del Prado wing of the Communist Party of Peru (PCP). Del Prado swung his support behind Arellano to prevent the attendance in Mexico City of Alipio Orbagoso, a close associate of Juan P. Luna. It is reported that Arellano and Castillo may now in return grant representation to the PCP among the five delegates to go to Tampico.

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